United Nations A/57/500-S/2002/1205

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
28 October 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 160
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 25 October 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith to you the text of a statement by an official source at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar dated 25 October 2002, in which it expressed its rejection and condemnation of the holding of innocent civilians in a Moscow theatre (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jamal Nassir **Al-Bader**
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 25 October 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

Qatar repudiates and condemns the seizure of innocent civilians in Moscow

Qatar has repudiated and condemned the seizure of innocent civilians at a theatre in Moscow.

The official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stated the position of the State of Qatar repudiating and condemning the terrorization and confinement of innocent civilians as an act incompatible with all religious precepts and human values.

The spokesman said that the State of Qatar was hopeful that this distressing incident would be brought to a safe conclusion and that the hostages would be released as quickly as possible and without bloodshed.

25 October 2002